| UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT<br>SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK |
|---|
| X   |
|   |
| NEW STREAM COMMERCIAL FINANCE, LLC,                           |

Plaintiff, Docket No.: 07 Civ. 9432 (RMB)

-against- ANSWER
-MAND COUNTERCLAIMS

HARVEY ELECTRONICS, INC.,

Defendant.

Defendant HARVEY ELECTRONICS, INC. (hereinafter referred to as "Harvey"), by its attorneys, The Law Offices of Donald T. Rave, for its Answer and Counterclaims states as follows:

- 1. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "1".
- 2. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "2", except admits that one or more of its representatives signed letters or agreements prepared by plaintiff, and avers that the terms and conditions of each are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.
- 3. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "3".
- 4. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of any of the allegations set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "4".

- 5. Admits the allegations set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "5".
- 6. Makes no response to the allegations set forth in the paragraphs of the Complaint designated "6" and avers that they are matters of law for this Honorable Court to determine.
- 7. Makes no response to the allegations set forth in the paragraphs of the Complaint designated "7" and avers that they are matters of law for this Honorable Court to determine.
- 8. In response to the allegations set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "8", admits that Exhibit "A" is a true copy of a "Commitment for \$9,000,000 Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility" signed by the parties, and avers that the effects of the terms and conditions of same are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.
- 9. Admits to the allegations set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "9".
- 10. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "10" insofar as it alleges that defendant had any debt to plaintiff.
- 11. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "11".
- 12. In response to the allegations set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "12", defendant admits that Exhibit "B" is a true copy of a "Commitment for

\$7,500,000 Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility" as signed by the parties, and avers that the effects of the terms and conditions of each are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.

- 13. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "13".
- 14. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "13", except admits that it obtained financing from YA Global Investments LP, and denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to whether plaintiff approved of same.
- 15. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "15".
- 16. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "16".
- 17. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "17", and avers that the effects of the terms and conditions recited are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.
- 18. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "18", and avers that the effects of the terms and conditions recited are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.
- 19. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "19", and avers that the effects of the terms and conditions recited are

matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.

- 20. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "20", and avers that the effects of the terms and conditions recited are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.
- 21. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "21", and avers that the effects of the terms and conditions recited are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.
- 22. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "22", and avers that the effects of the terms and conditions recited are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.
- 23. Denies each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "23".
- 24. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of any of the allegations set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "24".
- 25. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of any of the allegations set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "25".
- 26. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "26", except admits that it received Exhibit "D".
- 27. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of any of the allegations set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "27".
  - 28. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the

Complaint designated "28", except admits that it received Exhibit "E", and denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to whether its outside counsel received same.

- 29. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "29", except admits that it received a letter dated September 28, 2007.
- 30. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "30", except admits that it received Exhibit "F".
- 31. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "31".
- 32. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "32".
- 33. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "33".
- 34. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "34".
- 35. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "35", and avers that the effects of written agreements are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.
- 36. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "36".
  - 37. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the

Complaint designated "37".

- 38. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "38".
- 39. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "39".
- 40. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "40".
- 41. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "41".
- 42. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "42", and avers that the effects of the terms and conditions recited are matters of law to be determined by this Honorable Court.
- 43. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of any of the allegations set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "43".
- 44. Denies the truth of each and every allegation set forth in the paragraph of the Complaint designated "44".

# AS AND FOR A FIRST, SEPARATE AND COMPLETE AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, DEFENDANT ALLEGES THAT:

45. The Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

## AS AND FOR A SECOND, SEPARATE AND COMPLETE AFFIRMATIVE **DEFENSE, DEFENDANT ALLEGES THAT:**

46. Any recovery sought by plaintiff in this action is barred by the doctrine of unclean hands.

### AS AND FOR A THIRD, SEPARATE AND COMPLETE AFFIRMATIVE **DEFENSE, DEFENDANT ALLEGES THAT:**

47. By New Stream's improper conduct, it repudiated any agreement to provide financing to Harvey, requiring Harvey to mitigate its damages by obtaining financing elsewhere.

# AS AND FOR A FOURTH, SEPARATE AND COMPLETE AFFIRMATIVE **DEFENSE, DEFENDANT ALLEGES THAT:**

48. As set forth at length in the counterclaim *infra*, the contracts and agreements upon which New Stream purports to bring suit were fraudulently induced and therefore void.

#### **COUNTERCLAIMS**

As and for its Counterclaims Against Counterclaim Defendant New Stream Commercial Finance, LLC ("Newstream"), Counterclaim Plaintiff Harvey Electronics, Inc. ("Harvey") by its attorneys, The Law Offices of Donald T. Rave, alleges:

- 49. Counterclaim Plaintiff Harvey is a publicly traded New York corporation which in its current form or through a predecessor corporation has been in the consumer electronics business in the New York Metropolitan area for 80 years..
- 50. In or about March of 2007, Harvey approached Counterclaim Defendant New Stream about the possibility of providing debt financing for Harvey's planned acquisition of Myer-Emco, Inc., a privately owned retailer of consumer electronics operating in the suburban areas surrounding Washington, D.C.
- 51. New Stream represented to Harvey that it had over \$700 million of capital, that it did not operate like a bank and would be flexible, prompt and responsive to Harvey's stated needs, which was to secure a prompt source of funding in order to complete the acquisition and pay off its then current senior lender, Webster Business Credit Corp.
- 52. Prior to April 20, 2007, and as requested by Newstream, Harvey provided a \$35,000 deposit against expenses and New Stream and its outside counsel reviewed extensive documentation supplied by Harvey and Myer-Emco, Inc. and on April 16, 2007 New Stream advised Harvey that their credit committee had met and approved a deal to provide Harvey with a Senior Secured Credit Facility in the amount of \$9,000,000 in connection with the acquisition of Myer-Emco.

- 53. New Stream's President represented to Harvey's Chairman that the loan would be closed promptly in order to meet Harvey's financing needs, and issued a commitment letter dated April 20, 2007 (Exhibit "A" to the Complaint).
- 54. As requested, Harvey promptly signed the commitment letter and provided all further due diligence information requested by New Stream and its counsel. It also made further advances to New Stream for its expenses.
- 55. In early June of 2007, when it became apparent that the Myer-Emco transaction was being delayed, New Stream offered to provide Harvey with a \$7,500,000 Senior Secured Credit Facility on a stand-alone basis and not in connection with the acquisition.
- 56. Having already completed extensive due diligence and aware of Harvey's immediate need for the funds, New Stream promised to provide the needed financing on a "fire truck basis" so as to immediately pay off Webster Business Credit Corp. prior to July 1, 2007 and continue to have the working capital necessary to continue its business.
- 57. On June 18, 2007, in exchange for a \$75,000 deposit against expenses made by Harvey, New Stream issued a second commitment letter to provide the \$7,500,000 with the closing to occur prior to July 1, 2007.
- 58. Harvey and its counsel continued to provide New Stream with additional requested information and documentation, but New Stream continually refused to set a date for closing, despite being aware of the fact that Webster Business Credit Corp. was threatening to declare its loan in default and, thus, immediately due and payable which would force Harvey into bankruptcy.

- 59. That upon information and belief, at the time New Stream issued the June 18, 2007 commitment letter, and at the times it received deposits thereunder, it had no intention of making the loan to Harvey.
- 60. Frustrated by the lack of progress, Harvey's Chief Executive Officer, Michael E. Recca, traveled to New Stream's headquarters in Ridgefield, CT and met with New Stream's President, James McKay. Mr. Recca asked point blank whether New Stream was prepared to close the loan by August 1, 2007. McKay's response was that the financial information supplied by Harvey looked good, but that he needed an additional deposit of \$65,000 to "refill the fire truck" to cover legal fees whereupon he would instruct New Stream's lawyers to immediately resume work to achieve a rapid closing.
- 61. In reliance upon this representation, Recca agreed to make the additional deposit and on Monday, July 30, 2007, Harvey wire transferred \$65,000 to New Stream's account.
- 62. That at the time New Stream solicited the additional \$65,000 deposit, it had no intention of actually making the loan.
- 63. That upon information and belief, and contrary to representations by New Stream, after the payment New Stream's counsel never received instruction from New Stream to resume work to close the deal.
- 64. That after the deposit was made, New Stream personnel became unavailable for calls from Harvey personnel and even from their own counsel.

- 65. That, upon information and belief, New Stream personnel were in contact with Harvey's current lender, Webster Business Credit Corp., and encouraged them to force Harvey into bankruptcy so that New Stream could provide more lucrative debtor in possession financing.
- 66. When Harvey became aware of this conduct by New Stream, it was forced to secure other financing in order to avoid bankruptcy and mitigate the damages arising from New Stream's conduct.
- 67. That the terms of that financing required, *inter alia*, that Harvey issue warrants to purchase, for a nominal price, 20% of its total shares outstanding on a fully diluted basis.

# AS AND FOR A FIRST COUNTERCLAIM BREACH OF CONTRACT (incorporating all previous allegations):

68. By its conduct, New Stream breached its implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing with respect to the purportedly exclusive lending contracts it entered into with Harvey, causing Harvey to suffer damages in a sum as yet to be determined, but in no event less than \$10,000,000.

# AS AND FOR A SECOND COUNTERCLAIM UNJUST ENRICHMENT (incorporating all previous allegations):

69. Harvey conferred substantial benefits upon New Stream by making \$175,000 in "Underwriting Deposits" without New Stream providing any services or benefits in return.

70. Accordingly, the retention of such benefits by Counterclaim Defendant New Stream without return to Counterclaim Plaintiff Harvey would be unjust.

### AS AND FOR A THIRD COUNTERCLAIM FRAUD

(incorporating all previous allegations):

- 71. When New Stream induced Harvey to sign the June 18, 2007 \$7,500,000 loan commitment, which prohibited Harvey from negotiation with any other lenders, it never intended to make the loan.
- 72. When New Stream solicited and received the \$75,000 underwriting deposit on June 20, 2007, it never intended to make the loan.
- 73. When New Stream solicited and received the \$65,000 expense deposit on July 30, 2007, it never intended to make the loan.
- 73. Harvey justifiably relied upon New Stream's repeated representation that it would make the loan to its detriment, causing Harvey to suffer damages in excess of \$10,000,000.

AS AND FOR A FOURTH COUNTERCLAIM
ANTICIPATORY BREACH
(incorporating all previous allegations):

74. When it became apparent to Harvey that New Stream was not going to perform

its obligations, Harvey took immediate steps to mitigate its damages by obtaining substitute

financing.

75. As a result thereof, Harvey was caused to suffer damages in an amount to be

determined at trial, but in no event less than \$10,000,000.

WHEREFORE, Harvey respectfully demands that the Complaint against it be

dismissed and that it have judgment against Counterclaim Defendant New Stream

Commercial Finance, LLC as follows:

A. On the First Counterclaim, for judgment against New Stream in an amount to

be determined at trial, but in no event less than \$10,000,000;

B. On the Second Counterclaim for judgment against New Stream in the amount

of \$175,000;

C. On the Third Counterclaim for judgment against New Stream in an amount to

be proven at trial, but in no event less than \$10,000,000;

D. On the Fourth Counterclaim for judgment against New Stream in an amount

to be proven at trial, but in no event less than \$10,000,000;

E. On the Fifth Counterclaim for judgment against New Stream for the costs and

expenses of this action, including reasonable attorneys' fees; and

F. For such other and further relief which, to the Court, seems just and proper.

Dated: Locust Valley, New York

November 19, 2007

LAW OFFICES OF DONALD T. RAVE

13

Attorneys for Defendant and Counterclaim Plaintiff

By <u>Donald T. Rave, Jr.</u>
A Member of the Firm
11 The Plaza
Locust Valley, New York
516-671-1295
DTRAVEJR@RAVELAW.COM

To: Hahn & Hessen LLP
Attorneys for Plaintiff
and Counterclaim Defendant
488 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022
212-478-7200

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on November 19, 2007, the foregoing document was filed with the Clerk of the Court and served in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and/or the Southern District's Local Rules, and/or the Southern District's Rules on Electronic Service upon the following parties and participants:

> Hahn & Hessen LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff and Counterclaim Defendant 488 Madison Avenue New York, New York 10022

> > LAW OFFICES OF DONALD T. RAVE Attorneys for Defendant and Counterclaim Plaintiff

By Donald T. Rave, Jr. A Member of the Firm 11 The Plaza Locust Valley, New York 516-671-1295 DTRAVEJR@RAVELAW.COM

| STATE OF NEW YORK | )      |
|-------------------|--------|
|                   | ) ss.: |
| COUNTY OF NASSAU  | )      |

MICHAEL E. RECCA being duly sworn, deposes and says: I am the Chief Executive Officer of Harvey Electronics, Inc., a domestic corporation and the defendant and counterclaim plaintiff in the within action; I have read the foregoing Answer and Counterclaims and know the contents thereof; and the same is true to my own knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters I believe it to be true. This verification is made by me because the above party is a corporation and I am an officer thereof. The grounds of my belief as to all matters not stated upon my own knowledge are based upon corporate records and conversations with parties believed to have such knowledge.

Sworn to before me this

19th day of November, 2007

Notary Public

DONALD T. RAVE JR.

Notary Public, State of New York

No. 02RA5040661

Qualified in Suffolk County

Commission Expires March 20, 1994